What is claimed is:

1. A method of grouping entries in a directory server, said directory server configured to contain roles, the method comprising the step of:

assigning an entry to an enumerated role, whereby the entry can be selected by selecting all entries that possess the enumerated role.

2. The method as in claim 1 wherein the enumerated role is possessed by an arbitrary number of entries.

3. The method as in claim 1, further comprising the step of:

if an entry that possesses the enumerated role is a nested role, then rejecting that entry without further processing of the entry.

4. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

providing a set of expressions and boolean operations for use to match entries in a directory search.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the expressions comprise any one or more of operands connected by the operators,

equal	=	where an instance of the attribute exactly matches the value;
contains	*	which is used as a wild card to allow presence check or partial matches;
sounds like	~=	which is used in name searches;
greater or equal	>=	which is used for numerical comparisons;
less or equal	<=	which is used for numerical comparisons;

negation	!	which is used to negate any expression;
and	&	which is used to combine two expressions; and
or	|	which is used to select from two expressions.

6. An apparatus comprising:

a directory server comprising:

a first component configured to assign an entry to a first enumerated role, whereby the entry can be selected by selecting all entries that possess the enumerated role.

7. The apparatus as in claim 6 wherein the first component assigns an arbitrary number of entries to said first enumerated role.

8. The apparatus as in claim 6, further comprising:

a second component coupled to the directory server configured to reject an entry without further processing if the entry that possesses the enumerated role is a nested role.

9. The apparatus of claim 6, further comprising:

a component to provide a set of expressions and boolean operations for use to match entries in a directory search.

10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the expressions comprise any one or more of operands connected by the operators,

equal	=	where an instance of the attribute exactly matches the value;
contains	*	which is used as a wild card to allow presence check or partial matches;

sounds like	~=	which is used in name searches;	
greater or equal	>=	which is used for numerical comparisons;	
less or equal	<=	which is used for numerical comparisons;	
negation	!	which is used to negate any expression;	
and		&	which is used to combine two expressions; and
or		|	which is used to select from two expressions.